

Analytical Verbs Word Mat

Ditch "says" and "shows": stronger verbs for analytical writing

Instead of “shows”

suggests · implies · conveys · reveals · demonstrates · illustrates · presents · depicts · portrays · highlights · indicates · expresses

Instead of “says”

states · argues · claims · asserts · contends · observes · notes · remarks · declares · emphasises · acknowledges · insists

Suggesting meaning

connotes · symbolises · represents · signifies · evokes · alludes to · hints at · mirrors · reflects · foreshadows · embodies

The writer's craft

crafts · constructs · employs · deploys · juxtaposes · foregrounds · subverts · frames · structures · positions · contrasts

Effect on the reader

positions · invites · encourages · compels · unsettles · reassures · provokes · engages · persuades · evokes · alienates

Developing your point

this reinforces · this reflects · this challenges · this echoes · this builds on · furthermore · in contrast · as a result · ultimately

Put it together

- The writer suggests ..., which implies ...
- This connotes ..., positioning the reader to feel ...
- By juxtaposing X and Y, the writer foregrounds ... and ultimately ...